

## M I S

Ages to come, that shall your bounty hear,  
 Will think you *misstress* of the Indies were ;  
 Though freighter bounds your fortune did confine,  
 In your large heart was found a wealthy mine. *Waller.*  
 3. A woman skilled in any thing.  
 A letter defers all young wives to make themselves *mis-*  
*tresses* of Wingate's Arithmetick. *Addison's Spect.* N<sup>o</sup>. 92.  
 4. A woman teacher.  
 Erect publick schools, provided with the best and ablest  
 masters and *misstresses*. *Saunders.*  
 5. A woman beloved and courted.  
 They would not suffer the prince to confer with, or very  
 rarely to see, his *misstress*, whom they pretended he should  
 forswith marry. *Clarendon.*  
 Nice honour still engages to requite  
 False *misstress* and proud with slight for flight. *Granville.*  
 6. A term of contemptuous address.  
 Look you, pale *misstress*,  
 Do you perceive the ghastness of her eye? *Shakespeare.*  
 7. A whore; a concubine.  
 He needs not our *misstress*, since he delivers  
 Our offices, and what we have to do,  
 To the direction just. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*  
 Not then *misstress*, but tender love, joins  
 That I should meet thee oft; and mind thou me! *Milton.*  
 To MISTRESSFUL. *v. a.* [*mis and trust.*] To suspect; to doubt;  
 to regard with diffidence.  
 Will any man allege those mentioned human infirmities,  
 as reasons why these things should be *misstrusted* or doubted  
 of. *Hooker, b. ii.*  
 By a divine instinct, mens minds *misstrust*  
 Enslaving danger; as by proof we see,  
 The waters well before a boisterous storm. *Shakespeare.*  
 Fate her own book *misstrusted* at the sight,  
 On that side war, on this a single fight. *Cowley.*  
 The relation of a Spartan youth, that suffered a fox con-  
 cealed under his robe to tear out his bowels, is *misstrusted*  
 by men of business. *Brown.*  
 The gen'rous train complies,  
 Nor fraud *misstrusts* in virtue's fair disguise. *Pope's Odyssey.*  
 MISTRUSTFUL. *adj.* [*misstrust and full.*] Diffident; doubting.  
 I hold it cowardice  
 To rest *misstrustful*, where a noble heart  
 Hath pawn'd an open hand in sign of love, *Shakespeare.*  
 Here the *misstrustful* fowl no harm suspects,  
 So safe are all things which our king protects. *Waller.*  
 MISTRUSTFULNESS. *n. f.* [*from misstrustful.*] Diffidence;  
 doubt.  
 Without him I found a weakness, and a *misstrustfulness* of  
 myself, as one strayed from his best strength, when at any  
 time I mist him. *Sidney, b. ii.*  
 MISTRUSTFULLY. *adv.* [*from misstrustful.*] With suspicion;  
 with mistrust.  
 MISTRUSTLESS. *adj.* [*from misstrust.*] Confident; unsuspect-  
 ing.  
 Where he doth in stream *misstrustless* play,  
 Veil'd with night's robes, they stalk the shores abroad. *Carver's Survey of Cornwall.*  
 MISTY. *adj.* [*from mist.*]  
 1. Clouded; overpread with mists.  
 The morrow fair with purple beams  
 Dispers'd the shadows of the *misty* night. *Fairy Queen.*  
 Loud howling wolves arouse the jades,  
 That drag the tragic melancholy night;  
 Who with their drowly, slow, and flagging wings  
 Clip dead mens graves; and from their *misty* jaws  
 Breathe foul contagious darkness in the air. *Shakespeare.*  
 Parents overpize their children, while they behold them  
 through the vapours of affection which alter the appearance,  
 as things seem bigger in *misty* mornings. *Watson.*  
 Now fmoaks with flow'rs the *misty* mountain ground,  
 And floated fields lie undistinguis'd round. *Pope.*  
 2. Obscure; dark; not plain.  
 To MISUNDERSTAND. *v. a.* [*mis and understand.*] To mis-  
 conceive; to mistake.  
 The words of Tertullian, as they are by them alleged,  
 are *misunderstood*. *Hooker, b. ii.*  
 He failed in distinguishing these two regions, both called  
 Eden, and he altogether *misunderstood* two of the four rivers.  
*Raleigh's Hist. of the World.*  
 In vain do men take sanctuary in such *misunderstood* ex-  
 pressions as these; and from a false persuasion that they cannot  
 reform their lives never go about it. *South.*  
 This if it be neglected, will make the reader very much  
 mistake and *misunderstand* his meaning. *Locke.*  
 Were they only designed to instruct the three succeeding  
 generations, they are in no danger of being *misunderstood*.  
*Addison on ancient Medals.*

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The example of a good man is the best direction we can follow in the performance of our duty; the most exact rules and precepts are subject to be *misunderstood*; some at least will mistake their meaning. *Rogers's Sermon.*

**MISUNDERSTANDING.** *n. f.* [from *misunderstand*.]

1. Difference; disagreement.

There is a great *misunderstanding* betwixt the corpulent philosophers and the chemists. *Boyle.*

Servants mistake, and sometimes occasion *misunderstandings* among friends. *Swift's Mjfel.*- 2. Error; misconception.

Sever the construction of the injury from the point of contempt, imputing it to *misunderstanding* or fear. *Bacon.*

**MISUSAGE.** *n. f.* [from *misuse*.]

1. Abuse; ill use.
2. Bad treatment.

To *Misuse*, *v. a.* [*misuse*, Fr. *mis* and *use*.] To treat or use improperly; to abuse.

You *misuse* the reverence of your place,  
As a false favourite doth his prince's name  
In deeds dishonestable. *Shakep. Henry IV.*

It hath been their custom shamefully to *misuse* the fervent zeal of men to religious arms, by converting the monies that have been levied for such wars to their own services. *Raleigh.*

Bacchus, that first from out the purple grape  
Crush'd the sweet poison of *misused* wine. *Milton.*

Machiavel makes it appear, that the weakness of Italy, which was once so strong, was caused by the corrupt practices of the papacy, in depraving and *misusing* religion. *Sandis's Sermon.*

**MISUSE.** *n. f.* [from the verb.] Bad use; bad treatment.

Upon whose dead corpse there was such *misuse*,  
Such beastly, shameless transformation,  
By those Wellwhomen done, as may not be  
Without much shame retold. *Shakep. Henry IV.*

How much names taken for things mislead the understanding, the attentive reading of philosophical writers would discover, and that in words little suspected of any such *misuse*. *Locke.*

We have reason to humble ourselves before God by fasting and prayer, lest he should punish the *misuse* of our mercies by stopping the course of them. *Atterbury's Sermon.*

To *MISUSE.* *v. n.* [*mis* and *use*.] To misjudge; to distrust.

Later times things more unknown shall show,  
Why then should wisdom man so much *misuse*. *Fa. Q.*

To *MISUSE.* *v. n.* [*mis* and *use*, Saxon.] To go wrong.

Every thing begun with reason,  
Will come by ready means unto his end:  
But things misconceld must needs *misuse*. *Haberd.*

In this maze still wand'red and *misuse*,  
For heaven decreed to conceal the fame,  
To make the miscreant more to feel his shame. *Fairfax.*

**MISUSE.** *n. f.* A kind of mineral.

*Misy* contains no cupreous vitriol but only that of iron: it is a very beautiful mineral, of a fine bright yellow colour, and of a loose and friable structure, and much resembles the golden marcasites. *Hill's Mar. Med.*

**MITE.** *n. f.* [*mite*, French; *mijt*, Dutch; *midas*, Lat.]

1. A small insect found in cheese or corn; a weevil.

Virginity breeds *mites*, much like a cheete, consumes itself to the very parings, and so dies with feeding its own stomach. *Shakepeter's All's well that ends well.*

The polish'd gl'ads, whose small convex  
Enlarges to ten millions of degrees,  
The *mite* invisible elf, of nature's hand  
Leaft animal. *Philips.*

The idea of two is as distinct from the idea of three, as the magnitude of the whole earth is from that of a *mite*. *Locke.*- 2. The twentieth part of a grain.

The Seville piece of coin contains thirteen pennyweight twenty-one grains and fifteen *mites*, of which there are twenty in the grain, of sterling silver, and is in value forty-three English pence and eleven hundredths of a penny. *Arbutnot.*- 3. Any thing proverbially small; the third part of a farthing.

Though any man's corn they do bite,  
They will not allow him a *mite*. *Tuffer's Hysb.*

Are you defrauded, when he feeds the poor,  
Our *mite* decreases nothing of your store. *Dryden.*

Did I e'er my *mite* with-hold  
From the impotent and old. *Swift's Mjfel.*- 4. A small particle.

Put blue-bottles into an ant-hill they will be flaind with red, becaufe the ants thrust in their things, and infill into them a small *mite* of their stinging liquor, which hath the same effect as oil of vitriol. *Ray on Creation.*

**MITELEA.** *n. f.* A plant.

The *mitella* hath a perennial root; the cup of the flower consists of one leaf, and is divided into five parts; the flower consists of five leaves, which expand in form of a rose; the ovary

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ovary becomes a roundish fruit, which terminates in a point gaping at the top, in form of a bishop's mitre, and full of roundish seeds. *Miller.*

**MITHRIDATE, n. f.** [*mithridate*, Fr.]  
*Mithridate* is one of the capital medicines of the shops, consisting of a great number of ingredients, and has its name from its inventor Mithridates, king of Pontus. *Quincy.*

But you of learning and religion,  
And virtue, and such ingredients, have made  
A *mithridate*, whose operation  
Keeps off, or cures, what can be done or said. *Donne.*

**MITHRIDATE mylord. n. f.** [*mithrida*, Latin.]  
The flower of the *mithridate* consists of four leaves placed in form of a cross, out of whose cup rises the pointal, which afterward becomes a smooth roundish fruit, having commonly a leafy border, and slit on the upper side, divided into two cells by an intermediate partition placed obliquely with respect to the valves, and furnished with smooth roundish seeds; to which may be added the undivided leaves, which distinguish it from creffes. *Miller.*

**MITIGANT. adj.** [*mitigans*, Lat.] Lenient; lenitive.

To **MITIGATE, v. a.** [*mitigo*, Lat. *mitiger*, Fr.]  
1. To soften; to make less rigorous.  
We could greatly wish, that the rigour of their opinion were allayed and *mitigated*. *Hooker, b. v.*  
2. To alleviate; to make mild; to alluage.  
*Mithaps* are milder'd by advice discreet,  
And counsel *mitigates* the greatest smart. *Fairy Queen.*  
All it can do is, to devise how that which must be endured may be *mitigated*, and the inconveniences thereof counterbalanced as near as may be, that, when the best things are not possible, the belf may be made of those that are. *Hooker.*  
3. To mollify; to make less severe.

I undertook  
Before thee : and, not repenting, this obtain  
Of right, that I may *mitigate* their doom,  
On me deriv'd. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. x.*

4. To cool; to moderate.  
A man has frequent opportunity of *mitigating* the fierceness of a party, of softening the vicious, quieting the angry, and rectifying the prejudiced. *Addison's Spectator.*

**MITIGATION, n. f.** [*mitigatio*, Lat. *mitigation*, Fr. from *mitigare*] Abatement of any thing penal, harsh, or painful.  
The king would not have one penny abated of that granted to him by parliament, because it might encourage other countries to pray the like release or *mitigation*. *Bacon.*  
They caused divers subjects to be indicted of sundry crimes; and when the bills were found they committed them, and suffered them to languish long in prison, to extort from them great fines and ransoms, which they termed compositions and *mitigations*. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

**MITRE, n. f.** [*mitre*, Fr. *mitra*, Latin.]  
1. An ornament for the head.  
Nor Pantheus, thee, thy *mitre* nor the bands  
Of awful Phœbus, sav'd from impious hands. *Dryden.*  
2. A kind of episcopal crown.  
Bishopricks or burning, *mitres* or faggots, have been the rewards of different persons, according as they pronounced these consecrated syllables, or not. *Watts.*

**MITRE, n. f.** [Among workmen.] A kind of joining two **MITER, s.** boards together. *Miller.*

**MITRED. adj.** [*mitre*, Fr. from *mitre*] Adorned with a mitre.  
Shall the lord herald our success relate,  
Or *mitred* priest appoint the solemn day? *Prior.*  
*Mitred* abbots, among us, were those that were exempt from the diocesan jurisdiction, as having within their own precincts episcopal authority, and being lords in parliament were called abbots sovereign. *Sylvest's Parergon.*

**MITTENT. adj.** [*mittens*, Lat.] Sending forth; emitting.  
The fluxion proceedeth from humours peccant in quantity or quality, thrust forth by the part *mittent* upon the inferior weak parts. *Wifeman's Surgery.*

**MITTENS, n. f.** [*Mittaines*, French.]  
1. Coarse gloves for the Winter.  
December must be exprest with a horrid aspect, as also January clad in Irish rug, holding in furred mittens the sign of Capricorn.  
2. Gloves that cover the arm without covering the fingers.  
3. To handle one without *mittens*. To use one roughly. A low phrase. *Ainsl.*

**MITTIMUS, [Latin.]** A warrant by which a justice commits an offender to prison.

To **MIX, v. a.** [*mischen*, Dutch; *miscere*, Latin.]  
1. To unite different bodies into one mass; to put various ingredients together.  
Ephraim hath *mixed* himself among the people. *Hof. vii. 8.*  
A mixed multitude went up with them, and flocks and herds.  
He sent out of his mouth a blast of fire, and out of his lips a flaming breath, and out of his tongue he cast out sparks and tempests; and they were all *mixt* together. *2 Esdr. 2.*  
2. To form of different faiths.

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I have chosen an argument, *mist* of religious and civil considerations; and likewise *mist* between contemplative and active. *Bacon's holy War.*

3. To join; to mingle.  
Brothers, you mix your fadnets with some fear;  
This is the English not the Turkish court. *Shakespeare.*

*MIXEN*. *n. f.* [*mixen*, Saxon.] A dughill; a layfall.

*MIXTION*. *n. f.* [*mixture*, Fr. from *mix*.] Mixture; confusion of one body with another.

Others perceiving this rule to fall short, have pieced it out by the *mixture* of vacuity among bodies, believing it is that which makes one rarer than another. *Digby on Bodies.*

Though we want a proper name, yet are they not to be lightly past over as elementary or tuberculous mixtions.  
*Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. ii.

*MIXTLY*. *adv.* [from *mix*.] With coalition of different parts into one.

*MIXTURE*. *n. f.* [*mistura*, Latin.]

1. The act of mixing; the state of being mixed.  
O happy mixture, wherein things contrary do so qualify and correct the one the danger of the other's excess, that neither boldness can make us proud, as well as we are kept under with the sense of our own wretchedness; nor, while we trust in the mercy of God through Christ Jesus, fear be able to tyrannize over us! *Hooker*, b. v.

Those liquors are expelled out of the body which by their *mixture*, convert the aliment into an animal liquid. *Arbuth.*

I, by baleful furies led,  
With monstrous *mixture* stain'd my mother's bed. *Pope.*

2. A mass formed by mingled ingredients.  
Come vial—What if this *mixture* do not work at all?  
*Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.*

3. That which is added and mixed.  
Neither can God himself be otherwise understood, than as a mind free and disentangled from all corporeal mixtures, perceiving and moving all things. *Stillinger.*

Cicero doubts whether it were possible for a community to exist, that had not a prevailing *mixture* of piety in its constitution. *Addison's Freeholder*, N<sup>o</sup>. 29.

While we live in this world, where good and bad men are blended together, and where there is also a *mixture* of good and evil wisely distributed by God, to serve the ends of his providence. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

*MIZMAZE*. *n. f.* [*a* cant word, formed from *maze* by reduplication.] A maze; a labyrinth.

Those who are accustomed to reason have got the true key of books, and the clue to lead them through the *mizmaze* of variety of opinions and authors to truth. *Locke.*

*MIZZEN*. *n. f.* [*mrazen*, Dutch.]

The *mizzen* is a mast in the stern or back back of a ship: in some large ships there are two such masts, that standing next the main mast is called the main *mizzen*, and the other near the poop the bonaventure *mizzen*: the length of a *mizzen* mast is half that of the main mast, or the height of it is the same with that of the maintop mast from the quarter-deck, and the length of the *mizzen* topmast is half that. *Bail.*

A commander at sea had his leg fractured by the fall of his *mizzen* topmast. *Weyman's Surgery.*

*MIZZY*. *n. f.* A bog; a quagmire. *Lins.*

*MNEMONICKS*. *n. f.* [*μνημονικα*.] The art of memory.

*Mo*. *adj.* [*ma*, Saxon; *mae*, Scottish.] Making greater number; more.

Calliope and mufes mo,  
Soon as your oaken pipe begins to found  
Their ivory lutes lay by.  
With oxbows and oxyokes, with other things mo,  
For oxtrem and horietem in plough for to go. *Spenser.*  
*Mo*. *adv.* Further; longer. *Tusser.*

Sing no more ditties, sing no mo  
Of dumps so dull and heavy;  
The frauds of men were ever so,  
Since Summer was first leaft, *Shakespeare.*

To *MOAN*. *v. a.* [from *maenan*, Saxon, to grieve.] To lament; to deplore.

To *MOAN*. *v. n.* To grieve; to make lamentation.  
The gen'rous band redreftive search'd  
Into the horrors of the gloomy jail,  
Unpitied and unheard, where misery means. *Thomson.*

*MOAN*. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Lamentation; audible sorrow; grief expressed in words or cries.

I have disabled mine dwelling,  
By shewing something a more swelling port,  
Than my faint means would grant continuance;  
Nor do I now make *moan* to be abridg'd  
From such a noble rate. *Shakspeare, Merchant of Venice.*

The fresh stream ran by her, and murmur'd her *moans*;  
The salt tears fell from her, and soft'ned the stones. *Shakspeare.*

Sullen *moans*,  
Hollow groans,  
And cries of tortur'd ghosts. *Pope's St. Cecilia.*

*MOAT*. *n. f.* [*motte*, French, a mound; *mota*, low Latin.] A canal of water round a house or castle for defence.

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